

MINUTES

**MONTANA SENATE
59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON SENATE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 272

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN JOSEPH (JOE) TROPILA**, on April 12, 2005 at 4:00 P.M., in Room 422 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Joseph (Joe) Tropila, Chairman (D)
Rep. Carol Lambert, Chairman (R)
Sen. Keith Bales (R)
Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)
Rep. George G. Groesbeck (D)
Rep. Alan Olson (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Steven Gallus (D)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Annie Glover, Committee Secretary
Chris Lohse, Legislative Branch

Please Note. These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 272, 4/8/2005
Executive Action: HB 272

SEN. TROPILA called the meeting to order and asked for a motion on the Senate amendments to **HB 272**.

REP. OLSON stated that he would not have a problem consenting to amendments 2, 3, 6 and 8.

Motion: **REP. OLSON** moved that **HB 272 BE AMENDED WITH AMENDMENT 6**.

Discussion: **Chris Lohse, Legislative Services Division** stated that if the Committee adopts amendment 6, it must also adopt amendment 8. **Mr. Lohse** explained that the Committee's decision on amendment 2 is contingent on what the Committee decides in Subsection 3 in 87-2-506. He stated that if the committee agrees to adopt amendments 2, 3, 6 and 8, then the only question left for the Committee is whether to change 25 to 50.

REP. OLSON accepted adding amendments 2, 3 and 8 to his motion.

REP. LAMBERT asked **Mr. Lohse** if the amendments provide that, in areas where there are limited licenses available, this would not apply to those areas. **Mr. Lohse** replied that the primary concern was in those areas where special licenses are granted, it would be possible that all of these licenses would go to disabled veterans, making fewer licenses available to other residents applying. By adding the 10% limitation, the amendments protect the number of licenses available to current residents.

REP. LAMBERT asked **Mr. Lohse** to explain how amendment 8 applies to that issue. **Mr. Lohse** stated that amendment 8 is necessary because without that amendment, Fish, Wildlife and Parks could not use rule-making authority to decide to limit it to 10% in an area. With this amendment, the Committee gives the Department that leeway. **REP. LAMBERT** stated that this provision would not pertain to any other licenses, just the one area. **Mr. Lohse** concurred.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. **SEN. GALLUS** voted aye by proxy.

Motion: **REP. LAMBERT** MOVED THAT **HB 272 BE AMENDED BY STRIKING 25 AND INSERTING 50 ON AMENDMENTS 1, 4, 5 and 7**.

Discussion: **REP. LAMBERT** stated that since the current law is at 25, leaving it at 25 would not bring any benefits to veterans.

REP. OLSON stated that he concurred with **REP. LAMBERT** on her motion.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. SEN. GALLUS
voted aye by proxy.

Motion/Vote: REP. LAMBERT moved that HB 272 DO PASS AS AMENDED.
Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. SEN. GALLUS voted aye
by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:15 P.M.

SEN. JOSEPH (JOE) TROPILA, Chairman

ANNIE GLOVER, Secretary

JT/ag

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([ccs78hb0272aad0.PDF](#))